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25 November 1946

**MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable Robert S. McNamara
The Secretary of Defense**

SUBJECT : Pacification Measurement Activity

We have received another cable from Mr. George Allen giving an interim activity report which will be of interest to you. Its text is as follows:

(1) Herewith is a status report on the pacification measurement project. Shortly after arriving in Saigon on 19 November, [] and I met with a group representing interested U.S. Mission components, discussed our concept, and distributed related materials. A second meeting was scheduled for 25 November to obtain reactions and comments from these Mission components. We anticipate a consensus favoring some modifications to our proposal with a view to simplification, with some conceptual counter-proposals likely.

(2) Ambassador Porter, who was briefed on 20 November, was very receptive. He believes we are definitely on the right track and intends that the system ultimately adopted should retain the best features of our concept. Some modifications are inevitable, however, both to incorporate the valid results of extensive work on this problem already accomplished by some Saigon agencies and to integrate the results of preliminary testing which is already underway.

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(3) With Ambassador Porter's approval, three sub-sector advisors have been briefed and are now spot testing three hamlets each, in the various security environments. We will meet and critique their experiences on 3 December. Meanwhile, on 24 November, [] and I tested one hamlet in Vinh Binh province. This test brought out minor bugs in our indicator checklist which we will iron out progressively as we go along. We plan several more such tests during the coming week.

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(4) Returns from these preliminary tests will assist us in staffing out modifications with Saigon elements. A refined and coordinated system hopefully will be tested on a broader scale by mid-December to work out any remaining bugs before implementing the evaluation system nationwide. Ambassador Porter intends to place this project on the Mission Council agenda about 5 December if we near agreement on the ultimate system.

Richard Helms
Director

cc: Under Secretary Katzenbach
Mr. Komer
Assistant Administrator Poats

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